IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and
listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ A method for coding a stream of
input words using a channel code, the method

comprising the ~~steps~~ acts of:

precoding the stream of input words into a stream of precoded
input words; and

coding the stream of precoded input words into a stream of
groups of N code words;

~~characterized in that~~ wherein a combined running digital sum
of each group of N adjacent code words equals zero.

2. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method as claimed in claim
1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein N equals 2.

3.(Currently amended)   Method—The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein after the step of coding the stream of precoded input words into a stream of groups of N code words the method comprises the step of storing the groups of N code words using words using a groove position modulation on a storage medium.

4.(Currently amended)   Method—The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein coding the precoded stream of input words is achieved using a parity preserving coder.

5.(Currently amended)   Method—The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that wherein coding the precoded stream of input words is achieved using a parity inverting coder.

6.(Currently amended)   Method—The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein characterized in that the parity preserving coder is a 17PP coder.

7.(Currently amended)   Method—The method as claimed in claim

6, ~~characterized in that~~ _wherein_ the stream of ~~M input~~ _input_ words

is precoded using the following table:

In	Out
00	1010
01	0001
10	0111
11	0101
1010	00001000.

8. (Currently amended)   ~~Method~~ _The method_ as claimed in claim

6, ~~characterized in that~~ _wherein_ the stream ~~of M~~ _of_ input words is

precoded using the following table:

In		Out
00	->	—10 10
10	->	00 01
11	->	—01 11
01	->	01 01

11 11   ->   00 00 10 00.

9.(Currently amended) ~~Method~~ The method as claimed in claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein before the ~~step~~ act of storing the groups of N code words in using the groove position modulation on the storage medium remaining DC components are removed using a high-pass filter.

10.(Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ An apparatus for storing data on a recording medium comprising an encoder which arranged for coding the stream of precoded input words into a stream of groups of N code words and comprising a precoder for coding the stream of input words into a stream of precoded input words, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein a combined running digital sum of each group of N adjacent code words equals zero.

11.(Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as claimed in claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein N equals 2.

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12.(Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as claimed in claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the apparatus is arranged for storing the groups of N code words using a groove position modulation on a storage medium.

13.(Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as claimed in claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the encoder is a parity preserving coder.

14.(Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as claimed in claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the encoder is a parity inverting coder.

15.(Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as claimed in claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the parity preserving coder is a 17PP coder.

16.(Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as claimed in claim 15, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the precoder is operative to precode the stream of ~~M input~~ input words using the following

table:

In	Out
00	1010
01	0001
10	0111
11	0101
1010	00001000.

17. (Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as claimed in claim 15, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the precoder is operative to precode the stream of M ~~input~~ input words using the following table:

In		Out
00	->	—10 10
10	->	00 01
11	->	—01 11
01	->	01 01

11 11   ->   00 00 10 00.

18. (Currently amended) ~~Apparatus~~ The apparatus as claimed in claim 16, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the apparatus is operative to remove remaining DC components using a high-pass filter before storing the groups of N code words using the groove position modulation on the storage medium.

19. (Currently amended) ~~Record~~ A record carrier comprising a stream of ~~M input~~ input words stored as a stream of groups of N code words,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein a combined running digital sum of each group of N adjacent code words equals zero.

20. (Currently amended) ~~Record~~ The record carrier as claimed in claim 19,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein N=2.

21. (Currently amended) ~~Record~~ The record carrier as claimed in claim 19,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein the groups of N code words are

stored using a groove position modulation.

22.(Currently amended)   ~~Record~~ The record carrier as claimed

in claim 19,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein the stream of ~~M input~~ input

words is precoded using the following table:

In   Out

00   1010

01   0001

10   0111

11   0101

1010 00001000.

23.(Currently amended)   ~~Record~~ The record carrier as claimed

in claim 19,

~~characterized in that~~ wherein the stream of ~~M input~~ input

words is precoded using the following table:

In   Out

00   1010

10   0001

11   0111

01   0101

1111   00001000.

24. (Currently amended)   Method A method for decoding a stream

of N code words into a stream of M output words,

characterized in that wherein the stream of M output words is

postcoded using the following table:

In   Out

1010   00

0001   01

0111   10

0101   11

00001000 1010.

25. (Currently amended)   Method for decoding a stream of N code

words into a stream of M output words,

~~characterized in that~~ _wherein_ the stream of M output words is

postcoded using the following table:

In	Out
1010	00
0001	10
0111	11
0101	01
00001000	1111.